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Thursday, February 27, 1997 Volume 74, No. 6

# News Briefs

## Applications available for Jubilee parade

Applications are being taken for the 19th annual Black Gold Jubilee Parade. The parade will be held the morning of the Jubilee, April 19, beginning at 10 a.m. Civic groups and organizations are encouraged to participate by entering their float, truck or car in the parade. Participants are asked to remember the theme for this year's Jubilee is "Celebration of the American Family".

Applications are available at the Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce and at city hall. Deadline to enter is April 11. For more information, contact Debbie Buff at 996-0100.

## Applications ready for Harvest Queen Pageant

Applications are now available for the annual Harvest Queen Pageant, held in conjunction with the Black Gold Jubilee festival.

The Belle Glade Lions Club is again sponsoring this popular event for girls in the Glades area who attend school in Belle Glade or Pahokee.

Harvest Queen Pageant events will be held April 18, at 7:30 p.m., at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center.

Application deadline is March 21 and applications can be picked up at Atlantic Pacific Insurance, 204 N.W. Ave. L, Belle Glade. Tickets for the pageant will go on sale March 25 at \$10 per person. For additional information, call Becky White at 996-5800.

## Power Team Promotional Banquet is March 7

Tickets are now available and the community is invited to participate in the promotional banquet for the upcoming John Jacobs' Power Team Crusade.

The event will be held at First Baptist Church on Friday, March 7 at 7 p.m. A barbecue chicken dinner, catered by Park Avenue Restaurant will be served. A Power Team representative will be the guest speaker. The actual Community Crusade with John Jacobs and the Power Team will be May 7-11 at the old Glades Central Gymnasium. Banquet tickets are a \$10 donation.

Please call 996-5596 or 996-5054 for ticket information.

## Plant and bake sale planned in Pahokee

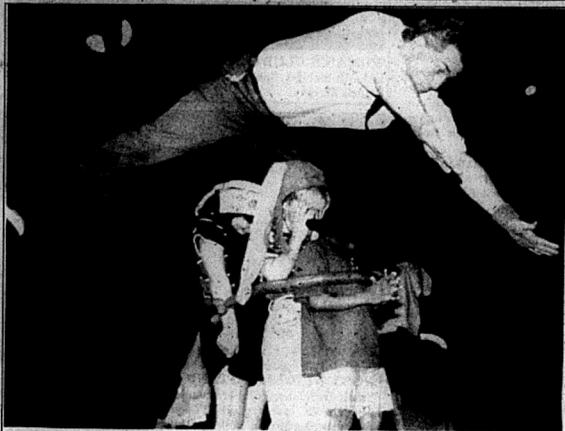
The Pahokee Garden Club held its monthly meeting at the home of Margaret Wilkinson. After a tour of the Pahokee Youth Development Center, members enjoyed lunch at Mrs. Wilkinson's home.

The garden club is planning a plant sale and bake sale for March 18 at 10 a.m. at First Union Bank in Pahokee.

The public is invited to attend.

## Sorority holding sale

Ki Beta Tau Sorority in Pahokee is holding a gigantic yard sale to raise money for the organization. Eighteen families have joined together to contribute items. The sale will be March 8 beginning at 7 a.m. at 1381 East Main Street, Pahokee.



**FLYING OVER THEIR HEADS...** Dr. I. Wonder demonstrated the theory of momentum by diving over the heads of three children during his performance at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center Friday evening. The children are, from left, Cindy Orsenigo, Michael Corby and Joel Chevez.

## Lake residents get exemption from food stamp cut-off by governor

By Brenda Bunting  
Editor

Food stamp recipients in the Glades can breathe a sigh of relief, for now, that they are exempt from a new government regulation.

Tens of thousands of food stamp recipients across the state stopped getting the government subsidy this week. But Gov. Lawton Chiles exempted people in Miami, Riviera Beach and areas around Lake Okechobee.

A new welfare law requires able-bodied adults ages 18 to

50 who are able to go to work and who have no dependent children to be removed from the food stamp list. The new ruling requires people lose their benefits for three years if they do not work 20 hours or more a week for three months, participate in a work program for 20 hours or more a week or perform community service work. The law limits food stamps to three months in any three-year period.

Gov. Chiles exempted this area because the large number of seasonal workers in the area

who rely heavily on food stamps during the off season.

Of those affected by the new law, 40 percent are women and a third are 40 years old or older. Any adult over 50 currently receiving food stamps is exempt from the new law.

The government allowed states to file for exemptions if the area has an unemployment rate of over 10 percent or does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment.

Approximately 33 other states have either requested or announced they will seek waivers.

## Pahokee's Pioneer Park to be renamed for hurricane victims of 1928 & 1929

By Stephanie Schneider  
Reporter

Pahokee's Garden Club went before the City Commission February 25 to suggest that Pioneer Park, located on Bacom Point Road, be renamed Pioneer Memorial Park in memory of the victims of the 1928 and 1929 hurricanes.

Pioneer Park is owned by the City of Pahokee but upkeep has been done by Pahokee's Garden Club for many years. The Garden Club has maintained the park by planting shrubs, bushes, trees, and flowering plants as well as weeding and putting mulch

down when needed. A relative of one the victims suggested dedicating a plaque and putting it in the park as a memorial to the victims and since Pioneer Park isn't used as a recreational park, it was suggested that the park be renamed and officially made a memorial park.

## New show added to Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center's schedule

The Core Ensemble will present "Charcoal Sketches," a musical play, on Thursday, March 6 at 7:30 p.m. at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center. This performance has just been added to the center's schedule. The musical play features the life and times of writer and anthropologist Zora Neale Hurston and educator and civil

rights leader Mary McLeod Bethune. The show features the music of Duke Ellington, Jelly Roll Morton and Billy Strayhorn.

The musical is free to series subscribers and \$1 for the general public. For ticket information, call the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center at 992-6160.



**THE GIFT THAT GIVES BACK...** Elton Kirkland, employed at Great Lakes Chemical received a gold watch from the Palm Beach Blood Bank for donating over 14 gallons of blood in his lifetime. Mr. Kirkland has been donating blood since 1968.

Photo by Stephanie Schneider

**Mike Lyons..Page 2**  
**Speak Out...Page 4**  
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**Medical news..Page 3**

## Local resident involved in accident in Virginia

What started out as a holiday trip to meet future-in-laws in Pennsylvania and serve as best man in his brother's wedding in Virginia has resulted in a tragic challenge for Belle Glade resident Robbie Levans, 26. He is the son of Faye and Larry Brandenburg of Clewiston.

Robbie, his fiancée Brenda Nehls, Mrs. Irene Nehls of Belle Glade and Jerry Nehls of Pennsylvania were on the return trip to Florida on January 3 when the vehicle driven by Mr. Nehls went out of control as it went off the left side of the pavement. The vehicle overturned three times and ended up back in the traffic lane on I-95 southbound just outside Emporia, Virginia. The Nehls were treated and released from Greenville Memorial Hospital. Robbie was airlifted to the trauma center of the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond for spinal cord injuries, fractures of cervical spine C-2 through C-6.

Robbie remained in the Neuroscience ICU for six weeks, battling many complications which resulted from his injury. He underwent surgery to stabilize his cervical spine on Jan. 17. He remains at the Medical College of Richmond and was recently transferred to the rehabilitation center at the hospital. His mother, Faye Brandenburg said, "Robbie's spinal cord injuries have left him paralyzed from the chest/neckline area down. The doctors and Robbie have worked hard during his six weeks in ICU to help him maintain lung function with the support of a ventilator."

Robbie's stepfather, Larry Brandenburg said in the Jan. 17 surgery, doctors installed a titanium cage where the C-5 vertebrae used to be, as well as installing a metal plate to stabi-

lize his other cervical injuries. They performed a tracheotomy several days after the main surgery in an effort to prepare him to be weaned off the ventilator.

Mr. Brandenburg said, "Robbie was employed by a masonry contractor in Pahokee and planned to be married to Ms. Brenda Nehls in May. He has gone through a lot of physical and emotional trauma since the accident. He had a tough time communicating what he wanted or needed while being on the ventilator."

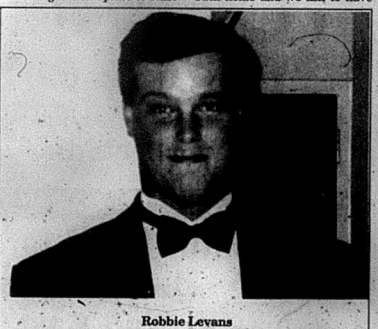
Mr. Brandenburg added that family members learned to read his lips to communicate better and hoped there would be no damage to his vocal cords so he could regain his ability to speak. His mother, Faye and his fiancée, Brenda, have been with him constantly since the accident. His mother returned home last week to resume work at

Everglades Regional Medical Center. They want to thank the community for the support the family has received since the accident.

There has been tremendous spiritual support from the communities throughout the Glades. The family feels Robbie would not be doing as well as he is without the continuing prayers offered for his treatment and recovery. Last week, much to the doctors surprise, Robbie was ready and had his trache removed, and has since gained the ability to labored speech somewhat," Mrs. Brandenburg said. She reflects thoughtfully, "You know, my heart, as well as the communities, went out to families like the McGahees, Thomleys, Robinsons, Cottons and others who also have children with spinal cord injuries. It is heart-wrenching to see anyone, especially a young person, have to go through something like this. It is hard on everyone, but I think, as we all do, this happens to other people, not me, not my family. I believe God has a plan, a reason, for choosing these young people to go through this. We may not know in our lifetime what that reason is, but we have to believe in Him and His process."

The recovery time for Robbie will be long and hard. He is expected to remain in rehabilitation for 10-12 weeks. Robbie came out of ICU two weeks ago and has started his rehab therapy to learn to adapt and compensate for the loss of use of his lower body and lower arms. With "mom" coming home, Brenda remains with him to assist and encourage Robbie in his rehabilitative efforts.

"We really appreciate the care and concern shown by everyone back home and we ask to have



Robbie Levans

Robbie kept on prayer lists for a while. Robbie and Brenda would love to receive cards and letters while going through this difficult time. You may write them as follows," Mrs. Brandenburg said.

Robert A. Levans, Jr.  
MCV Rehabilitation Center  
P.O. Box 980104  
Richmond, Virginia, 23298 or  
Brenda A. Nehls  
C/O Hospital Hospitality House  
612 E. Marshall St.  
Richmond, VA 23298

Robbie had no medical insurance coverage. An account has been established by friends and well-wishers at the First Bank of Clewiston, 300 E. Sugarland Highway, to assist in Robbie's personal needs and expenses. You may contact First Bank at (941) 893-8191 for information on contributions.

# The cycle of El Nino

By Mike Lyons

The residents of Tahiti were in shock. They couldn't believe that a hurricane was headed for their tropical island. Hurricanes weren't supposed to strike Tahiti. After all, the French Polynesian island was considered nirvana. It was paradise.

Yet, in the summer of 1982, paradise was lost as a powerful storm struck Tahiti. One person was killed and more than 25,000 people were left homeless. It was the first of five hurricanes that swept through French Polynesia during that terrible summer.

Tahiti was not the only location to experience unusual weather in 1982. Between November 1982 and June 1993, 12 feet of rain fell in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Floods and mudslides claimed 2,000 lives and caused hundreds of millions of dollars in property and crop damage.

In other parts of the world, there simply wasn't enough water. Severe drought affected Australia, the Philippines, Indonesia, Mexico, South Africa, Sri Lanka and southern India. Thousands of people perished from starvation and heat. Crop losses amounted to several billion dollars. It was as if the weather had been turned upside down. In the



Mike Lyons

United States, severe storms raked California. Here in Florida, we experienced some of the worst flooding in decades. Still, there was some good news. Scientists knew exactly what was causing the world's unusual weather. It was a phenomenon called El Nino.

El Nino is a complex set of oceanic and atmospheric changes which occur in cycles in the Pacific Ocean. This age old phenomenon develops when warm water from the western part of the tropical Pacific moves east across the International Date Line and eventually to the coast of South America.

As the warm water flows to the east, it buries the cold, nutrient rich water which normally upwells at the coast. In the presence of this warm water

produces dramatic changes in the jet streams that move storms around the world. The result is very unusual weather.

Here in Florida, El Nino means rain. An analysis of our weather during El Nino years discovered that rainfall can be as much as 66 percent above normal. El Nino patterns tend to produce heavy periods of rain during the winter and spring months in central and southern Florida.

El Nino also means fewer hurricanes. Dr. William Gray, the hurricane forecaster at Colorado State University, considers the El Nino an important factor in all of his predictions.

Still, an El Nino is not a guaranteed hurricane killer. Our most recent El Nino was 1992 - the same year Hurricane Andrew struck South Florida.

El Nino's occur every three to seven years and last for varying lengths of time. At present, all is quiet in the Pacific Ocean. Still, scientists continue to monitor water temperatures and measure the trade winds to keep track of the ocean.

It has been four years since our last El Nino. Scientists know it is about time for another cycle. They say to expect another El Nino in the near future.

Most of the time, our weather runs in predictable patterns. Every once in a while, though, something like an El Nino comes along to stir things up.



WOMAN'S CLUB TOURS HEAVEN'S BREAD BASKET...L-R: Nataleah Nachman, Lisa Humphries, Sandra Chamblee, Gloria Swager, Jean Day, David Day, Nancy Carpenter and Francis Murphy.



HOBY WINNERS ATTEND LUNCHEON...A former and current HOBY (Hugh O'Brien Youth Foundation) winner attended the February 20 Belle Glade Woman's Club luncheon. Each year, the WC sponsors a HOBY winner to attend a weekend at Nova University in Miami, where they learn leadership skills and information about various professions. Shown L-R: Glades Day Academic Counselor Rita Shoenfeld, GDS West Principal Brenda Braddock, 1996 HOBY winner Courtney Braddock, WC member Sandra Chamblee and 1997 HOBY recipient Derrick Lamb.

Western Communities Family Practice of Belle Glade is relocating their office to the Wellington Campus as of March 1, 1997.

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Like all living plants, vegetables cease growing and start deteriorating when they are harvested and begin their journey to our dinner tables. It follows that the closer your source for fresh fruits and vegetables, the better chance you have of getting products that are fresh out of the fields.

Fortunately, here in Florida and especially in South Florida, we live in an area that is the source for the nation's winter vegetables.

Unfortunately, our local Florida farmers are facing significant problems caused by imported produce - much of it from Mexico - which is dumped in this country at well below the cost of production, thereby threatening to drive our local growers out of business.

None of us wants to see Florida farmers go out of business, so that we are dependent on other nations to feed us. We don't want foreign-grown products that have to travel a long way, and which are grown under something other than the strict supervision and regulation of US Government agencies, which insures the safety of our home-grown products. Finally, we do not want to pay a lot for something we now get at bargain prices.

So here are a few tips on purchasing fresh fruits and veg-

etables, tips you can share with your friends and which you can use every day you go to the market for food.

1. When you're selecting your fresh fruits and vegetables, check to see where they are grown. We're fortunate in Florida that ours is the only state in the union where "Country of Origin" labeling is required on all fresh fruits and vegetables, so Floridians have the advantage of knowing where their food is produced.

2. Almost without fail, anything grown in the US has spent less time in transit from harvest to the store, and, of course, Florida products spend even less time than those grown in other parts of the country.

3. By the way, a fast way to tell if a head of lettuce has been out of the field for some time is to check the bottom or "butt" of the head. The whiter it is, the fresher it is.

4. Ask the produce manager about growing conditions in other countries versus those here in the US. He should be familiar with a variety of US Government bureaus and agencies that monitor the output of American farmers' fields and ranches on a regular basis. Not many of the same rules

and regulations govern food production in Mexico and other nations.

5. (Other nations are still allowed to use agricultural chemicals which were banned from use in the US years ago. Also, many nations have few rules and regulations which protect the environment, and those who do seldom enforce them.)

6. If you're having trouble finding Florida and US grown, fresh products and wish to have them available to you, let your produce manager or store manager know.

THE BOTTOM LINE IS THIS: Florida farmers and their counterparts all across America are more than just providers of fresh, wholesome, safe food. Because of the harvests of their fields, we are a free nation, whose independent and constant food supply keeps us healthy and safe. And because of these same bountiful harvests, we in America feed ourselves for less money than anywhere in the world. According to the USDA, Americans' food costs us just under 10¢ out of a dollar earned. Most of the people of the world spend the vast majority of their income just to feed themselves.

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# McCRORY



# Medical Services

## Options for prostate problems

By Paula Swaford, RN

The very first column I wrote back in 1993 concerned Eve's revenge on Adam. This was accomplished by the Creator endowing men, and men only, with the donut shaped organ known as the prostate gland. (You know that you have prostate problems when you find yourself waking through-out the night to go to the bathroom, never feeling as though your bladder is ever truly empty. Most men eventually suffer from enlarged prostate and develop a condition called BPH, benign prostatic hyperplasia or hypertrophy. While



Paula Swaford, RN

the ripe berry of a low, scrubby palm tree that grows wild in most parts of Florida and the southeastern United States. During the first half of this century, it was widely used for urinary and genital ailments, according to herb expert Varro Tyler.

Three good studies in France and Italy looked at a total of 280 men who were waking up to go to the bathroom an average of about four times a night. The 140 of them who took 320mg of saw palmetto a day for one to three months averaged one less nightly trip to the bathroom than the 140 men who were given placebos (fake drugs). The men also said that urinating wasn't as painful or difficult as before and they were able to empty

more of their bladders.

It has been stated that saw palmetto is the only over-the-counter ingredient that appears to relieve, BUT NOT ELIMINATE, the symptoms of an enlarged prostate, at least in some men. But a word of caution is due: before treating yourself with saw palmetto, or any other non-FDA approved medication or supplement, see a doctor to make sure that you don't have a more serious problem like a kidney infection or prostate cancer.

Also, if you are smart and anywhere from 35 years of age or older, speak with your doctor about getting a PSA (prostate-specific antigen) test done on a yearly basis. This test can detect levels of PSA in your blood. Consult your physician regarding the regimen you choose and be sure to let him know if you are taking saw palmetto when you have your PSA test done, as it can affect the final results.

Whatever course you decide upon, seek sound medical advice and don't ignore the obvious.

Until next time...stay informed and stay healthy.



### Put Health Care Back In the Hands of Seniors

(NU) - Profit-making, health maintenance organizations and Medicare must not keep crucial choices regarding care out of the hands of senior citizens, says Martha A. McSteen, president of the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare.

The National Committee is urging members of Congress to support measures that would assure access to emergency and specialty care for all Medicare beneficiaries. Several measures are moving through congressional committees now that would put health care decisions back in the hands of Medicare beneficiaries. Some of these include:

- The Access to Emergency Medical Services Act of 1995, which would, among other things, require plans to cover and pay for all Medicare beneficiaries. Several measures are moving through congressional committees now that would put health care decisions back in the hands of Medicare beneficiaries.
- The Patient Right to Know Act of 1996, the so-called anti-gag bill, would encourage full and open communication between a physician and patient regarding that patient's physical or mental condition and available treatment options.

- The Senior Citizens Access to Health Care Act would require HMOs to offer coverage for out-of-network physician services at a reasonable cost.

For more information about the committee's efforts on behalf of seniors, contact the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, 2000 K St., N.W., Washington, DC 20006, or call (202) 822-9459.



There may be no better way to get your daily requirement of calcium than by consuming dairy products. Unfortunately, dairy products have a bad reputation for being high in fat. Fact is, there are plenty of low-fat and nonfat options in the dairy section, so you can do dairy without doing in your low fat diet.



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this condition is not in itself life threatening, it can be mighty unpleasant. If the swollen prostate gland presses against the urethra (the tube that carries urine from the bladder out of the body), the simple act of urination can become hit-or-miss and painful.

Surgery can open up the flow, but not without the risk of incontinence (inability to control urination) or impotence. Prescription drugs provide some relief for some men, but not without the risk of diminished sex drive (Proscar) or dizziness (Hytrin). And there's no consistent evidence that diet matters. Many men have resorted to visiting their local health food stores in hopes of some non-Food and Drug Administration approved miracle cure. The FDA requires that prescription drugs be investigated before their approval; however "health food supplements" can't be by the FDA's scrutiny as long as they don't make an explicit claim on the label that their product cures a disease. They are far too smart to do that.

Recently, we have heard a lot about "saw palmetto". Many men swear by its results. The saw palmetto is

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## OPINION PAGE

## Feel strongly about local issues?


**THE SUN**

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To voice your opinion on any subject, call *Speak Out* at 996-6636, 24 hours a day. Readers can use this special number to pose questions, voice complaints, express opinions or pat somebody on the back. Unlike letters to the editor, *Speak Out* is designed for anonymous expression of opinions. We edit calls for clarity, brevity, relevance and fairness.

**Canal not a garbage dump**

"Saturday morning I was pulling out on Northeast 21st Street when I saw an older person on Northeast 22nd Street dumping a bag

of garbage in the canal on Airport Road.

It makes me very upset that people pollute our canals. We need to do something about this. Thank you."

## Letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

The following comments relate to Daniel Williams' open letter to the community (*The Sun*, Page 4, February 20, 1997).

I cannot refer to the report of the May, 1996 Community Design Charrette, the apparent basis of Mr. Williams' "Lesson from Belle Glade" in *The Miami Herald*, *Viewpoint* (IL, 6L), January 26, 1997, and of his open letter to *The Sun* noted above. The charrette report doesn't seem to be in the public realm (Belle Glade City Hall, Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce, Belle Glade Library).

Mr. Williams comments on sustainability of agriculture in the EAA. Is there a standard, universally accepted definition for the term and its application?

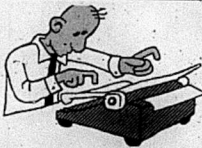
Mr. Williams notes that "jobs" was the number one issue at the beginning of the charrette and then lists five opportunities to diversify the economy. Those which improve the ambience (rejuvenate "olde" town, widen the Hillsborough Canal, create a river walk, and provide street landscaping) may be aesthetically desirable but would generate few post-construction jobs, beyond maintenance and service personnel. Mr. Williams does not suggest the kinds of new businesses which could endure or could be "sustainable," nor the potential employment in these ventures.

Not one of the five opportunities listed is likely to cause more than a slight economic ripple in Belle Glade's affairs.

"Cleaning up the town" deserves a YES. Who will provide the leadership role?

Recreating Belle Glade's connection with Lake Okechobee, and providing a lake view by developing an adjacent "new town" is frivolous. What is the source of fill sufficient to raise a "new town" some ten feet above the Lake's

**Editors note:** The POLICE NEWS in this newspaper lists arrests, not convictions, unless otherwise stated. Arrested persons who later are found not guilty or have had the charges against them dropped are welcome to let us know. We will confirm the information and print it.



## About letters

To voice your opinion about Glade's issues, or to respond favorably or unfavorably to articles printed in the paper, we encourage you to write us a letter. Send to:

**THE SUN**  
 417 N.W. 16th Street #6, Belle Glade, FL 33430

**THE SUN**

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We pledge...

- ✓ To operate this newspaper as a public trust.
- ✓ To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- ✓ To provide the information citizens need to make their own decisions about public issues.
- ✓ To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- ✓ To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
- ✓ To correct our errors, and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- ✓ To provide a right to reply to those about whom we write.
- ✓ To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.



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"WHICH SIDE, SLEEPING OR NON SLEEPING?"

## My Mother and Father-in-Law's Home

By Ruth E. Newman  
 Belle Glade

Cruising down Highway 27 last week, I peered over to the left down a small dirt road leading to the main street in a small town and began reminiscing. Spring Mom and Dad's old homestead there in Lake Harbor brought misty tears and fluttering butterflies to my tummy. I gazed in surprise to see the home in which family gatherings had brought worlds of hugs, fun games, music and hymns.

It was always the perfect hangout for juicy hamburgers and bottled Coca Colas, baiting a fish hook, rolling pant legs knee high and wading out into the tempting, cool water of Lake Okechobee to catch a fish or two.

Seems like only yesterday that I could feel the minnows wiggling between my toes. As if time had just stood still, waiting for my return.

Well, return I did and now it is some 20 years later, but since the passing of Myrtle and Jake Newman, there's been very little change in the quaint and friendly little community. Maybe a coat or two of fresh paint on a few of the older homes, giving them a glowing new face-lift or more cobwebs beneath the eaves of most of the remaining buildings.

However, regardless of change or not, as I slammed the door to my maroon 1994 Taurus, I heard a howling yelp from Moose, my small grey and white poodle. Turning, I said, "I'm so sorry, Moose. You can't go this time. I'll be right back in a moment."

Although the rain had completely ceased, I could still hear its pitter-pat, pitter-pat as it softly fell from the eaves of this snow white, high-stepped, wood-framed house. The soaked pink sheets and pillow cases on the outdoor clothesline flapped continuously in a desperate effort to "dry out." The smell of orange blossoms from a nearby tree filled my nostrils.

Receiving the key from the new owner of the Sinclair filling station, adjacent to the house I

was about to enter, I observed it closely. The stucco station, still green and white, had changed little since I had seen it last. However, the new neon light high above the station's entrance did modernize it some. Chairs out front brought back memories of Dad sitting and talking with farmers who'd stopped for gas and a chat or two. Sometimes for hours.

Entering the house, I glanced to the left of the living room where an old upright piano with its rectangular bench once stood. We "younguns" used to gather around it to sing our hymns of praise and thanksgiving. To us they had gone right through the ceiling to God above.

In the same room I could almost feel the warmth of Uncle Eck and Aunt Margaret's new baby, wrapped in a cozy, flannel blanket. Beyond the living room, Mom's embroidered white, cotton bedspread of pink and mauve roses covered the maple, double bed. I still see Dad's green and white cap on the bed post.

The other bedroom in the house was the "guest room" and in order at all times. A small bathroom connected the two bedrooms. No shower, just a small lavatory, commode and large oblong, four-legged bath tub. To the "right" of the living room was the most hospitable and most-used part of the house - the kitchen, where hot buckwheat pancakes and maple syrup warmed me on chilly mornings!

Returning to Moose, I looked back once again at this treasured moment in time - Mom and Dad's aged bungalow bordering the Hillsborough Canal, north of the Hoover Dike. The forty-foot high dike almost surrounding Lake Okechobee protected the village below from unwelcome floods. At the dike's base, several hundred Australian Pines towered high above the lake - what a picturesque view.

As Moose and I regrettably pulled away from my memories, my present cares seemed insignificant.

## Is there a junior couch potato in your home?

By Celia Elrod  
 Parental Involvement  
 Specialist at Family First

According to recent statistics, children (ages 6-11) watch an average of 25 hours of television per week - younger children even more. This averages out to more than 3.5 hours of television per day. Six to eight hours of TV viewing per day is usual for children who have little parental supervision. That is equivalent to a full time job. Television viewing can be good and bad for your children.

Television is good as an educational tool. Sesame Street and Reading Rainbow inspire children to become ready for school and to love literature. National Geographic specials teach children to understand and respect the environment and all the world's creatures. Families who use television as a "togetherness" activity watch quality programs and discuss the issues afterwards. Television can provide a window to the world for all viewers.

On the negative side, excessive television viewing robs children's time for other activities, such as playing with friends, completing homework, and exercising. Watching TV is a passive activity. It does not require interactions or movement, especially since the invention of the remote control. Children get an unrealistic view of the world. Since young children have a difficult time separating fact from fiction, they tend to believe most of what they see on television.



Celia Elrod

Experts believe that viewing violent television programs may make children more aggressive. They are concerned that children may become desensitized to the violence on television and thus less sensitive and more accepting of violence in real life.

Parents, it is your responsibility to help your children make good choices about the programs they watch and to limit the amount of time they watch TV while promoting other worthwhile activities. If you feel television is having an influence on your child's life, you have two choices: eliminate television altogether or regulate the types of programs your child watches and reduce his or her daily viewing time. If you choose the first alternative, be prepared for an uphill battle. The second choice, a TV diet, is an easier alternative. Just remember parents, if you start this diet it is important to stick to it. Say what you mean and mean what you say.

To make your TV choices easier, here is an explanation of the new television ratings.

**TVY** - Appropriate for all children. Specifically designed for a very young audience, including children from age 2-6. This program is not expected to frighten young children.

**TVG** - Designed for children age 7 and above. More appropriate for children able to distinguish between make-believe and reality. May include mild physical or comedic violence.

See TV ratings, Page 5





**MAKING PLANS FOR EDUCATION DAY IN THE GLADES MARCH 14.** Pictured at the Leadership Glades Education session which began with the chamber breakfast at Glades General Hospital are the following: Back row, from left, facilitators Alice Thompson and Shelly Miller, West Area School Superintendent Eugenia Jones, Facilitator Mary Orenigo and Leadership Glades Chair Sue Teets. Seated, left to right, Palm Beach County School Superintendent Joan Kowal and her assistant, Ann Killella.

## Belle Glade Police Dept. arrest blotter

The Belle Glade Police Department handled 659 complaints and worked 13 crime scenes the week of February 17-23. Those arrested included:

**February 17** - No arrests made.

**February 18** - No arrests made.

**February 19** - Donald Graham, 23, failure to appear; Vanishia Howard, 18, retail theft; Rodney King, 36, aggravated battery with a deadly weapon.

**February 20** - Macquell Davis, 20, armed burglary of an occupied dwelling, aggravated assault and domestic battery.

**February 21** - Jimmie Mills, 26, loitering and prowling; Jorge Lopez, 29, retail theft; Dorthene Harris, 33, domestic battery; Juvenile, 16, aggravated domestic battery.

**February 22** - Antonio Sanchez, 25, trespassing after warning; Mauro Felix, 24, trespassing after warning; Toyns Jenkins, 20, violation of probation; Willie Britt, 22, loitering and prowling and

resisting arrest without violence; Eric Brown, 22, domestic battery.

**February 23** - Thomas Lane, 31, contempt of court; Rattie Mae Walker, 37, aggravated domestic battery.

The police news in this newspaper lists arrests, not convictions, unless otherwise stated. Arrested persons who later are found not guilty or have had the charges against them dropped are welcome to let us know. We will confirm the information and print it.

## Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers of Palm Beach County, Inc., is asking citizens to help locate Bobby Smith, who is wanted for violation of probation on charges of aggravated battery, false imprisonment and three counts of civil contempt of court.

Smith is 6' tall and weighs 190 pounds. His last known address was 602 Covenant Drive, Belle Glade.

He has black hair and brown

eyes and his date of birth is May 2, 1966. His Social Security number is 266-39-5404 and his last occupation was as an employee of U.S. Sugar.

His warrant was active as of February 18, 1997. If you know the whereabouts of Bobby Smith, or anyone involved in a serious crime, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-458-5477.

You can remain anonymous and still receive a cash reward if your tip leads to an arrest or the recovery of stolen property.



Bobby Teronin Smith

## Pahokee Police Dept. arrest blotter

The Pahokee Police Department made seven arrests the week of February 17-23.

Those arrested included:

**February 17** - No arrests made.

**February 18** - No arrests made.

**February 19** - Juvenile, 16, retail theft; Terrance Johnson, 21, picked up on warrants for grand theft auto, obstruction without violence and larceny of auto parts.

**February 20** - Juvenile, 17, warrant for contempt of court; Eloy Solis, 50, domestic battery, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon; Jose Luis Gonzalez, 26, carrying a concealed firearm.

## More Sunspots...

Lutheran Ministries of Florida, PBPI Head Start, is recruiting and accepting applications for three and four year old children.

All are welcome, including children with disabilities and there are no fees. The center is located at 200 S.W. 9th Street, Belle Glade.

For more information, call 996-1718.

**Gospel Sing at Miracle Temple Ministries**  
Miracle Temple Ministries is hosting a gospel sing on Friday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. Singers from around the lake will participate. Pastor Alvin E. Nichols invites the community to come out and enjoy the evening. Miracle Temple Ministries is located at 104 S.W. 16th Street, Belle Glade.

**February 21** - No arrests made.

**February 22** - Juvenile, 16, burglary of an occupied dwelling; Juvenile, 10, burglary of an occupied dwelling.

**February 23** - No arrests made.

## Recovery Group meets at Good Shepherd

A Christ-centered recovery group meets every Monday evening at the Good Shepherd Church of God in Pahokee. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. and the public is welcome. The church is located at 1800 Bacom Point Road, Pahokee.

## STAFF BUILDERS THE HOME HEALTH CARE ALTERNATIVE

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National Home Health Care Provider

## FREE IN-HOME ASSESSMENT & INSURANCE EVALUATION

**Community United Methodist offers program**  
The Community United Methodist Church will host "Jews for Jesus", Christ in the Passover, on Sunday, March 2, at 10:55 a.m.

Presented by Sharon Freeman, the event is free and open

to the public. The church is located at 401 S.W. First Street, Belle Glade.

Explorers offering chicken dinners this Sunday  
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Explorer Post 611 is sponsoring a barbecued chicken dinner this Sunday, Feb. 23, from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Belle Glade Marina Pavilion.

Tickets are a \$6 donation and can be purchased in advance by calling Sgt. John Raulerson or Wanda Cheek at the PBC Sheriff's Department or from any Sheriff's Office Explorer.

**GDS annual golf tournament is March 22**  
Glades Day School's annual golf tournament is scheduled for Saturday, March 22 at the Belle Glade Golf Course.

The event, scheduled to coincide with the school's "Spring Fling" will start with registration at 8 a.m. and tee off at 9 a.m. Cost is \$35 for club members and \$40 for non-members. Refreshments will be provided and prizes will be awarded to

the top four teams.

Golfers can sign up by calling 996-6605.

## Red & White Ball is March 29

The Glades Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. will be sponsoring its annual Red & White Ball, Saturday, March 29, beginning at 9 p.m.

Dinner will be served and music will be provided by Harvey Poole, Jr.

Dress for this affair is semi-formal or formal. The donation is \$15 per person.

For more information or tickets, contact Rachel Brown Glover at 996-6828 or any sorority member.

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Clewiston, FL 33440  
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## Fat Boys' Bar-B-Q

For the Month of February

## LUNCH SPECIALS

\*Monday - Chopped BBQ Sandwich (French Fry, Beans & Cole Slaw) - \$4.50  
\*Tuesday - Country Fried Steak (Mashed Potatoes & Vegetables) - \$4.75  
\*Wednesday - Chicken & Dumplings with Garlic Bread - \$4.99  
\*Thursday - Pork or Beef Plate (Choice of Baked Potatoes or Fries, Beans, Cole Slaw & Garlic Bread) - \$5.50  
\*Friday - Pork Chops (Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetables & Garlic Bread) - \$4.99  
\*Saturday - All U Can Eat BBQ Chik'n (Baked Potatoes or Fries, Beans, Slaw & Garlic Bread) - \$5.99  
\*Sunday - All U Can Eat Catfish (Baked Potatoes or Fries, Beans, Slaw & Garlic Bread) - \$6.95

## DINNER SPECIALS

\*Monday - All U Can Eat Pork - \$6.95  
\*Tuesday - 16oz Sirloin (Cole Slaw & Salad) - \$11.99  
\*Wednesday - Country Fried Steak - \$6.95  
\*Thursday - Catfish Dinner - \$6.25  
\*Friday - All U Can Eat Ribs - \$6.95  
\*Saturday - All U Can Eat Chicken - \$5.95  
\*Sunday - All U Can Eat Catfish - \$6.95

The above served with choice of Potatoes, Beans, Cole Slaw and Garlic Bread.  
No Sharing on All U Can Eat and No To Go on All U Can Eat.

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## Military News

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Rupert A. Tullock, son of Ethel L. Seabrooks of Pahokee, recently reported for duty aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. John F. Kennedy, homeported in Mayport, FL.

Tullock's new assignment is an example of how Navy and Marine Corps men and women are assigned to ships, squadrons and shore com-

mands around the world. Whether serving in the Persian Gulf near Iraq or in the Adriatic Sea near Bosnia, people like Tullock are making a difference as they work to improve their knowledge and skill as a part of the most highly technical naval force in history.

The 1986 graduate of Pahokee High School joined the Navy in July 1986.

## Evans achieves academic excellence at U.C.F.

A tribute to academic excellence at the University of Central Florida in Orlando led to Caleb Evans of Belle Glade receiving Freshman honors.

Freshmen had to have at least a 3.0 grade point average or better during their first semester to be considered for the award.

The exercise was held in the U.C.F. College Arena on

February 7, 1997. Awards were presented by Dr. John Hill, President of U.C.F.

Caleb is the son of John Evans and Teresa Sullivan and grandson of Jane B. Evans of Belle Glade and Jonnie Wheeler, of West Palm Beach and Charles Ward of Stuart.

Caleb is a 1996 graduate of Glades Day School.

## G.E.D. testing to be held at Glades Central

The GED test will be given at Glades Central High School on March 4, 5, & 6 at 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Adults should register in the Community School

office before 5 p.m. on March 3. The cost of the test is \$25.

For more information please contact the Community School office at 993-4404.

## Yvette Graydon and Miles Griffin exchange vows



Mr. & Mrs. Miles Griffin

Miss Yvette C. Graydon of Pahokee and Miles D. Griffin of Loxahatchee were joined in marriage by Father John Mercante in a double-ring Catholic candle-light ceremony held at the First United Methodist Church in Pahokee, Saturday, December 21, 1996 at 8:30 p.m.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Graydon of Pahokee. She is a graduate of Glades Day School in Belle Glade and holds a BS Degree in Telecommunication from the University of Florida in Gainesville.

The groom is the son of Dan and Peggy Griffin of Loxahatchee, and is also a graduate of Glades Day School. Miles is the owner of M.Y. Land Services, Inc. involved in landscaping, sodding, and seeding.

The church decorations, arranged by Wild Flowers from Royal Palm Beach, featured beautiful greenery with white miniature lights and candelabra in the center. The pews along the center aisle were decorated with gold ribbons and burgundy colored flowers.

The program of nuptial music was presented by Mrs. Alice Thompson, organist/pianist of Pahokee and Mrs. Janna Howard, vocalist of West Palm Beach, who sang "The Wedding Song, Longer, Grow Old with Me, Sunrise Sunset, The Lord's Prayer and Avia Maria."

Escorted and given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a gown of satin with lace, pearls and sequins in ivory color. The crucifix of gold and diamonds she wore belonged to her mother's family and she was the fourth generation to wear this crucifix. Her bridal bouquet was dedicated to her grandmother "Abuela," who has been ill.

Miss Alina Blanchard of Belle Glade, best of friends since kindergarten, was her maid of honor. She was attired in a gold satin gown carrying a bouquet of burgundy and mauve colored flowers. Bridesmaids were Cyndi Hood of Belle Glade, Wendy Allen of Gainesville, Cristina and Michelle Alvarez of Belle Glade, Jennifer Murphy of

West Palm Beach, Colin McCord of Ft. Myers and DeAnna Graham of Orlando. Their gowns were made of gold satin and they carried flower bouquets in burgundy and mauve.

Keely Morris of Wellington as flower girl also wore a gold-colored gown. Adam Dixon of Pahokee, cousin of the bride-elect, as ringbearer wore a black tuxedo with an ivory vest.

Todd Griffin, brother of the bride-elect, served as best man.

Head groomsmen were Ronito Graydon of Melbourne, brother of the bride-elect, and Chancey Griffin, brother of the groom-elect. Other groomsmen were Christopher Waters of Atlanta, Ga., Eric Collins of Orlando, Lodge Hilyer of Okeechobee, Michael Thompson of Belle Glade, and Jeremy Crawford of Belle Glade.

A special Bible reading was performed by Amy Prescott of Belle Glade and Yeams Rameris of Orlando. At the church ceremony, in charge of passing out programs and the wedding book were Nicole Alvarez of Belle Glade, Brittany Hilyer, cousin of the groom-elect, of Okeechobee and Cindi Lyn Moore, cousin of the bride-elect of West Palm Beach.

Mrs. M. Graydon, mother of the bride-elect, wore a long black crepe gown with a black beaded top. The reception immediately following the ceremony was held at the Poinciana Country Club in West Palm Beach. The Country Club was beautifully decorated with miniature lights and a Christmas tree full of ornaments to give away to all the guests.

The bride's getaway outfit was an ivory two-piece short suit and the groom wore a handsome sports suit for their honeymoon trip to Canada. As the couple entered their limousine destined for Miami, the crowd blew bubbles as their send-off of good wishes for Yvette and Miles.

The couple will make their home in Royal Palm Beach, Florida.

# Worship With Us

### BELLE GLADE

**APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST**  
1214 E. Canal St. South  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**BELLE GLADE ALLIANCE CHURCH**  
432 Canal St. North  
Rev. Lloyd G. Green  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF BELLE GLADE**  
Rev. Richard Smith  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHOSEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
N.W. Hwy. 6 & Hwy. 71  
Rev. Richard Smith  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
125 N.W. Ave. D  
Rev. Richard Smith  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST NO. 1**  
725 W. Ave. of Pines  
S. Edwards  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHET**  
601 S.E. 12th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHURCH OF GOD OF THE LATTER DAY SAINTS (MORMON)**  
801 N.E. Ave. A  
Ramon Palacios-Brennan Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**MIRACLE TEMPLE**  
1500 N.W. 1st St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHURCH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH**  
877 S.W. 8th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHURCH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH**  
877 S.W. 8th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHURCH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH**  
877 S.W. 8th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

### COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

David A. Day - Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**EL BETHEL EVANGELIST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
1010 PALM BEACH RD.  
Loyce Lee - Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**EVERGLADES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
1500 N.W. 11th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
17 N.W. Ave. B  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**GREATER ST. PAUL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
512 W. Ave. A  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**HAITIAN MISSION OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
601 S.E. 12th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**HOUSE OF GOD**  
715 S.W. 6th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**HOUSE OF GOD OF PROPHET**  
601 S.E. 12th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**HOUSE OF GOD OF THE LATTER DAY SAINTS (MORMON)**  
801 N.E. Ave. A  
Ramon Palacios-Brennan Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**MIRACLE TEMPLE**  
1500 N.W. 1st St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHURCH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH**  
877 S.W. 8th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHURCH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH**  
877 S.W. 8th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CHURCH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH**  
877 S.W. 8th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

### THE COMMUNITY BETHOOSIT CHURCH

Rev. J.P. Adams  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**PAHOKEE**

**APOLISTIC CHURCH OF PAHOKEE**  
155 E. Main St. 934-5671  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**ST. PETERS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
225 N.W. Ave. G  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**ST. PHILIP BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
710 S. Main St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**SOUTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
1600 S. Main St. (SR 90)  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**SPANISH MISSION OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
17 N.W. Avenue B  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**THE GLORIOUS COMMUNITY HOLINESS CHURCH OF JESUS OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH INC.**  
624 N.W. 8th St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**WORSHIP CENTER PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH**  
1424 W. Canal St. S.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CANAL POINT**

**CANAL POINT BAPTIST CHURCH**  
107 1ST ST.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
100 2nd St.  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

**LAKE HARBOR**

**COMPASSION CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
541 Performance Drive  
Rev. J.P. Pastor  
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

## Obituaries

Jorge Vergel, Sr., 56, of 800 Southwest 16th Street, Lot 28, Belle Glade, died Saturday, February 8, in the Everglades Regional Medical Center in Pahokee.

A native of Cuba, he was born on November 9, 1940, son of the late Vicente Vergel and Maria Christine Morales Vergel. He has been a resident of the Glades for the past 3 years having moved here from Cuba. Prior to his retirement, due to ill health, he was employed with Air Corp Care as plant foreman.

Surviving are: sons-Jorge Vergel Jr., of Belle Glade and Oreste Vergel of Pahokee and five grandchildren.

The funeral service was conducted Tuesday, February 11, in the chapel of the James A. Bennett Funeral Home, Father Louis Ainetto, St. Philip Beniz Catholic Church of Belle Glade officiated. Interment was in Port Mayaca Memorial Gardens.

The James A. Bennett Funeral Home, Pahokee, had charge of the arrangements.

Myrtle Hitchcock, 67, of Canal Point, died early Tuesday morning, February 16, in the Everglades Regional Medical Center following a courageous battle against cancer the past six months.

A life-long resident of the Glades, she was born on October 19, 1929 in Pahokee. She was associated with her

late husband in the operation of A.C. Hitchcock Grocery Store in Belle Glade until retirement in 1986. The store was located in Sand Cut, north of Canal Point from 1968 to 1970. In 1970 the store was moved to a location on Belle Glade Road in Pahokee, where they operated it until their retirement. She was a member of the Canal Point Baptist Church. She was married on December 21, 1947 to Aubrey Clement Hitchcock, who preceded her in death on December 14, 1988.

Survived by: Alan Hitchcock and his wife Sandie of Riviera Beach, David Hitchcock of Canal Point and Donny Hitchcock of Pahokee; daughter and her husband, Wanda and Richard Morelli of Greenacres; grandchildren, Niki Hitchcock of Chattahoochee, TN, Wendy Crawford of West Palm Beach. David and Wanda are both deceased.

The funeral service was conducted Friday morning, February 21, at 10 a.m. in the Canal Point Baptist Church. The Rev. James A. Bennett, pastor, officiated. Interment followed in Port Mayaca Memorial Park.

Surviving as pallbearers were: Fred Brock, Hugh Spooner, Frank Tillis, John Branch, Wayne Browning, and Jimmy Wilson.

The James A. Bennett Funeral Home, Pahokee, has charge of the arrangements.

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These girls have a reason to be all smiles...The J.V. Lady Gators defeated Clewiston's Lady Tigers with the skill of professionals.



Future P.G.A. Tour Professionals...Glades Day's Golf Team takes the time to flash a smile before tee off. From left to right: Josh Davis, John Hand, Parker Altman, Jason Hoard, Jonathan Lively, Justin Hamilton, and Coach Darrell Hobson.



## Private scholarship money available to students

Every year, as millions of students pursue their dreams by applying to colleges, universities and graduate schools, their attention soon shifts to the reality and concerns of paying for their education. College costs have tripled over the past 15 years making it more and more difficult for families to pay for tuition, room & board, text books, lab fees, and other expenses.

With recent cutbacks in federal grants, students are becoming more frustrated as they discover they can't keep up with the increasing dollars they are asked to contribute each year. Financial experts

see a disturbing trend as many families fund college costs totally through loans. As a result an increasing number of students are graduating from undergraduate programs with overwhelming debts of \$20-\$30,000 or more.

The good news is that private scholarship and grant money has been increasing. Currently there are nearly 400,000 independent and private scholarship and grant sources available which do not have to be paid back. More than 80% of these scholarships do not depend on family need or exceptional grades but are awarded based on factors such as student's inter-

ests, hobbies, academic focus, age, heritage or parent's work or military service.

Unfortunately, these sources remain largely unknown to most students. As a result, many students miss out on scholarship money available to them simply because they are not aware that it exists and do not apply for it. Now, through the resources of the National Academic Funding Advisory (NAFA), an updated publication for 1997 is available which provides important information that will help all students seeking financial assistance.

For information on how to

receive academic funding and scholarships send a No. 10 self-addressed, double stamped business envelope plus \$2.00 to cover handling to NAFA, 700 Greenland Road-Left, Dept. G3, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

## African American Principals of the Glades to be honored at banquet on March 8

The Executive Board of the Glades Festival of Afro-Arts and the Iota Omicron Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. cordially invites everyone to join them in honoring the African American principals of the Glades.

The celebration banquet will be Saturday, March 8, 1997 at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center. You may get a ticket from any member of the sorority or any executive board member. If you would like to honor a honoree, you may do so by having a congratulatory greeting

printed in the official souvenir booklet. For additional information, contact Mrs. Tolbert at 996-4574.

The 17th Annual Afro-Arts Festival is scheduled for March 15, 1997. The board is still soliciting support from the community. If interested in rendering service for this project, please come to the next weekly meeting held every Wednesday evening at 8:30 p.m. at the home of Winifred Tolbert, festival director.

All interested churches are asked to render at least two

selections for the Gospel Power Hour. If your church is interested, please contact any member of the local Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. or call Mrs. Tolbert at 996-4574.

Individuals or groups interested in putting an entry into the parade may contact either Verdell Bolden (99601705), Mary Evan (996-1574) or Mary Funderburk (996-0312).

Young ladies still interested in the Miss Afro-Arts pageant may contact Ms. Mary Bell, Mrs. Barbara Davis or Mrs. Jesse Terry for an application.

## ATTENTION ALL INCOME GROUPS Important Notice To Homeowners

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, under Title 1 Insurance Programs of the National Housing Act, has made it possible through approved lenders for millions of families to make major improvements to their home. **NO MATTER IF YOU ARE CONSIDERED TO BE A LOW, MIDDLE, OR HIGH-INCOME FAMILY - finally, a HUD program for everyone.** The federal government wants to help you repair and remodel your house with **no equity loans for \$25,000 or less.** You may be eligible no matter how long you own your house, ethnic background, location, condition, income, age, and marital status. Not affiliated with U.S. Government Department of HUD.

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## Fishing with Walt Reynolds

Mother Nature has again shown that she can change the best laid plans. Jimmy Houston and I were filming this week and were scheduled to film four days on Lake Okechobee but due to the high winds, we were forced to spend part of our time at the Sawgrass Recreation Area in order to complete the shoot. We did manage to get a lot of good footage with our guests and also had some right fair fishing. I will try to let you know when these shows will air so you can see some local shots.

The cold front last week and the high winds that

followed slowed the fishing down considerably the first part of the week but as the warmer temperatures returned the latter part of the week, it improved. There are a good number of fish back on the south end of the lake.

The crappie were starting to bite better but the winds this week kept a lot of fishermen from the areas that were exposed and therefore the numbers caught were down. I also saw some nice blue Gill starting to bite.

To all a good bite,  
Walt Reynolds  
Touring Pro.

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## Some Workers Get Tax Credit

Some workers could increase their income this year with a tax credit. The earned income tax credit (EITC) could be worth a few dollars or as much as \$3,550. While the EITC is a tax credit, a worker does not have to owe tax to get it. Even people who have never filed a tax return before, and who do not earn enough income to file one this year, could receive the credit. For those who qualify, all it takes is a tax return to get their EITC refund in the mail.

The credit is based on income and the number of qualifying children a person has living with him or her in the United States for more than half the year, or for the whole year if they have foster children. Workers who do not have a qualifying child may also receive a credit of up to \$323.

Those who are in the U.S. military on extended active duty outside the United States are considered to live in the United States during that duty period and may be able to get the EITC as long as all other rules are met. Also, workers who are nonresident aliens for any part of the year cannot claim the credit unless they are married to a U.S. citizen or resident and choose to be treated as a



resident alien for the entire year.

All workers must have earned income from wages or self-employment. Their income must be less than \$28,495 if they had two or more qualifying children, less than \$25,078 if they had one qualifying child. Workers with no children must earn less than \$9,500, be at least age 25 and under 65, not be eligible to be a dependent and their main home must be in the United States for more than half the year. No one with more than \$2,350 in

investment income, such as interest or dividends, may claim the EITC.

Working families who will earn less than the 1997 income limits and have at least one qualifying child may be able to receive their EITC payments as part of their paychecks. Details are on Form W-5, "Earned Income Credit Advance Payment Certificate," which they must give to their employers. Based on the amount of an employee's earnings, the employer adds a certain amount of money, which is actually a portion of the EITC, to the employee's pay. This advance EITC option gives workers access to additional money throughout the year, rather than in a lump sum in April.

Workers should be careful to use the correct Social Security numbers when filling out tax forms and schedules. "If they don't," the IRS says, "their tax returns and any refund due may be delayed while their return is being corrected."

For more information on the earned income tax credit, call the IRS at 1-800-829-3676 and ask for a copy of Publication 596, "Earned Income Credit," or 596SP, "Credito por Ingreso del Trabajo," in Spanish. For more than half the year.

## Get Receipts for Charity Gifts

People who made contributions to qualified charities in 1996 may need a written acknowledgment from the organization if they want to deduct the payments on their tax returns. Contributions of \$250 or more, or over \$75 if they are partly contribution and partly for goods or services received, must be backed up by a written statement from the organization. The statement should describe the contribution, and give a good faith estimate of the value of any goods or services received for the payment. For more info, call 1-800-829-3674 and request the English-language Publication 526, "Charitable Contributions."



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**DRESSED UP DOCTOR...**Belle Glade resident Paul Cook was a good sport and participated in the show put on by Dr. I. Wonder on Friday night at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center.



**WASHINGTON LEGISLATIVE AIDES** were invited to the Glades last week to tour the facilities of the sugar industry and learn more about farming in South Florida. Liz Nicolson, legislative aide to Congressman Mark Foley, visits with Everglades WIFE President Eva Webb (right) during a luncheon held in Clewiston.

## Low interest loans available to farmers

U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman has recently announced that 16 Florida counties were declared disaster areas for

damages suffered in the January freeze. Among the counties are Broward, Dade, Hendry, and Palm Beach. The declaration means that

producers in these areas who are interested may contact their local Farm Service Agency office. That number is 996-7900.

## Ground beef food safety is as easy as 1, 2, 3

No matter what we eat, food safety is important. Bacteria are everywhere, including on all foods. Most are harmless and can be reduced by washing foods like fruits and vegetables or can be eliminated by proper

cooking. Ground meat requires thorough cooking because when meat or poultry are ground, any bacteria on the surface are mixed into the product.

Making sure ground meats are safe is easy; just follow these three simple rules:

- 1) Buy it cold, keep it cold: When purchasing ground beef, make sure to choose packages that are cold and tightly wrapped without tears or punctures. It's a good idea to buy meat at the end of your shopping trip to assure that it remains cold. Once purchased and taken home, ground beef should be used or frozen within two days. NEVER defrost any kind of meat on the counter or in the sink because

refrigerator or by using the microwave.

- 2) If it's pink, put it back on the heat: To destroy the bacteria that may be in ground meat, ground beef must be cooked to medium doneness or an internal temperature of 160 degrees. NEVER eat raw or rare ground beef. If ground beef looks pink, it is not thoroughly cooked.

- 3) Soap and water save the day: Wash your hands, work surface and utensils thoroughly with hot, soapy water after they come in contact with raw meat. Do not place cooked meat on a plate or cutting board that was used to hold raw meat unless the surface is first washed with hot, soapy water to sanitize it.

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**TAKING IT ON THE CHIN...**Dr. I. Wonder performed many stunts for the captivated audience at the Dolly Hand on Friday.



**A BIG BUBBLE MAKER...**Giant bubbles floated out toward the audience during Dr. I. Wonder's show Friday, Feb. 21.

## Missing Cat!

Male cat answers to Cody. Grey, black & white coat with green eyes. Cat has grown since photo  
Call 996-3808 or 992-4012



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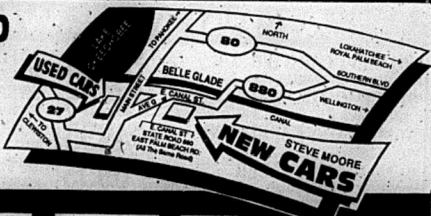
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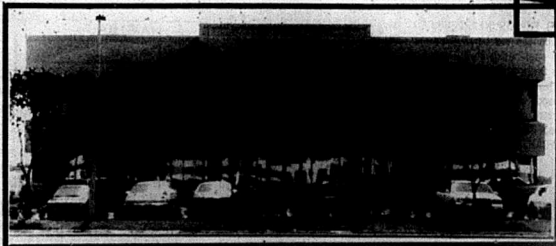
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Columbia Palms West Hospital is proud to be recognized as one of the best-run hospitals in the United States. In an annual study of nearly 4,000 hospitals by HCIA, a Baltimore-based health care information company, and New York-based Mercer Health Care Provider Consulting, Columbia Palms West Hospital was recognized for exceeding the medical industry's standards for financial, operational and clinical performance.

Columbia Palms West Hospital would like to thank our dedicated physicians, employees, and volunteers for achieving this standard of excellence. And congratulations to the people we serve. Nationally recognized, high-quality health care is just minutes from any place in Palm Beach County. That makes our patients winners, too.

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### PHYSICIAN SPOTLIGHT

Care and Treatment of Osteoarthritis  
Jeffrey L. Kugler, M.D.



Degenerative joint disease or osteoarthritis is the most common disease affecting weight bearing joints. It is characterized by progressive deterioration and loss of articular cartilage.

While osteoarthritis can appear at any age, its incidence is greatest as a person ages—with greater than 50% of patients over age 65 having symptoms. In patients under 40, it is frequently secondary to prior trauma or childhood disease. Common symptoms are pain (usually more with weight bearing), limping, and restricted motion (change in leg length or alignment).

Corrective measures are helpful in reducing the symptoms. These include weight loss, or the use of a cane, to reduce the stress across the joint. Rest reduces symptoms, but can cause muscle weakness. Physical therapy can help maintain muscle strength and preserve motion. The application of heat or cold, taking anti-inflammatory medication and intra-articular steroid injections all can help to reduce the symptoms of osteoarthritis.

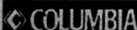
When these corrective measures fail, surgical treatment may then be indicated. Outpatient arthroscopic procedures to remove degenerative meniscus tears can markedly reduce symptoms of pain and motion restrictions. For more advanced cases, an osteotomy (cutting of the bone) can be performed to improve alignment and performance of the joint.

Another surgical option for very severe arthritis of the hip, especially in young patients, is an arthrodesis (fusion) in which the painful motion is eliminated. However, the most common procedure is a total joint replacement.

Total joint replacement is a highly successful procedure with greater than 90% of patients having a good to excellent result with diminished pain, improved range of motion and the ability to return to their prior activity level.

Dr. Kugler is with the physician group Orthopedic Center of Palm Beach County. He specializes in Orthopedic Surgery, Sports Medicine and Total Joint Replacement. Dr. Kugler is board certified by the American Board of Orthopedic Surgeons and has a special interest in adult reconstructive surgery and arthroscopy. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Kugler at the group's Belle Glade Office, call (561) 967-6500 or 1-800-633-5783. The Orthopedic Center of Palm Beach County features 16 specialists dedicated to providing excellence in orthopedic care for over 38 years.

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